

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 SR-02 ORM-03 DRC-01

AID-20 DPW-01 /176 W

----- 101986

R 281555Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5897

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL LONDON 13888

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BD, IN, PK

SUBJECT: BANGLADESH INITIATIVE TO RENEW TALKS

REF: STATE 232891

1. FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH, BANGLADESH HIGH COMMISSIONER ABDUS SULTAN TOLD US AT RECENT RECEPTION THAT ALL PROBLEMS, INCLUDING QUESTION OF 195 PAK POWS, ARE NEGOTIABLE IN CONTEXT OF MUJIB MEETING WITH BHUTTO ON BASIS OF SOVEREIGN EQUALITY. HE (LIKE FAKHRUDDIN AHMED, REFTEL) INSISTED THIS MEANT AFTER RECOGNITION.

2. ON POWS, MOST SULTAN SAID HE WAS ABLE TO STATE WAS THAT THEIR NUMBERS COULD BE PARED DOWN FURTHER. HE RECALLED EARLIER BANGLADESH "OFFER" TO LIMIT POSSIBLE TRIALS TO 1500 POWS AND CLAIMED BHUTTO HAD AT ONE TIME AGREED TO THIS NUMBER. GOING BELOW 195 SHOULD APPEAL TO BHUTTO, SULTAN SUGGESTED. HE RESISTED OUR COUNTER-ARGUMENT THAT DOING AWAY WITH TRIALS ALTOGETHER MIGHT

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BE RESULT OF ANY NEW NEGOTIATION.

3. COMMENT: SULTAN TOOK A LOT OF TIME AND REPEATED HIMSELF OFTEN, SUGGESTING THAT HE DEFINITELY WAS TRYING TO CONVEY MESSAGE TO US, EVEN THOUGH HE CLAIMED THESE IDEAS WERE "PERSONAL".

4. INCIDENTALLY, SULTAN DENIED OUR SUGGESTION THAT HE HAD GOOD LOCAL INTERLOCUTOR IN PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR DOULTANA. ALTHOUGH THE TWO VERY OLD FRIENDS, THEY TALK ONLY SOCIALLY, SULTAN SAID, AND HAVE NEVER DISCUSSED THEIR COUNTRIES' CURRENT PROBLEMS HERE IN LONDON.

ANNENBERG

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POW, MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: mcintyresh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Reference: STATE 232891
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Type: TE
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